

Lawrence County Board of Education Regular Meeting

*Every Child College and Career Ready;
A Community Involved and Informed*

February 16, 2016 6:00 p.m.
Lawrence County High School
Louisa, Kentucky

Attendance Taken at 6:00 p.m.:

Present Board Members:

Mr. D. Heath Preston, Chairman
Ms. Garnett Skaggs, Vice-chair
Ms. Barbara Robinson
Mr. James See
Ms. Maddlene Roberts

Present: Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent; LMS students: Brock Kessinger, Jake Webb, and Aubrey West; LMS 7th grade basketball team members: Trenton Adkins, Brandon Davis, Kyle Davis, Baden Gillispie, Brock Kessinger, Cody Maynard, Mark Webb, and Jared Williams; LMS 7th grade boys basketball coaches, Jeremy Wellman and Matt Maynard; Ms. Edris Humphrey, Director of Federal Programs/Finance; Ms. Cassandra Webb, Chief Academic Officer; Mr. Vernon Hall, Director of Pupil Personnel/ Personnel; Ms. Rhonda Colvin, Director of Special Education/Preschool; Lawrence County High School Principal: Ms. Christy Moore; Louisa East Elementary Principal: Ms. Mary Hall; Louisa Middle School Principal: Mr. Tommy Castle; Fallsburg Elementary Principal: Mr. Stuart Cook; Blaine Elementary Principal: Mr. Shawn Jennings; Louisa West Elementary Principal: Ms. Debbie Delong; Ms. Sharon Parsons, Director of Pupil Interventions; Mr. James Ellis, Director of Adult & Community Education; Mr. Tommy Burns, Chief Information Officer and Temporary Secretary

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Preston called the meeting to order with a reminder that the mission of the Board and Lawrence County Schools is *Every Child College and Career Ready; A Community Involved and Informed*. He then led *The Pledge to the United States Flag*.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

2.A. Approval to amend the agenda to appoint Tommy Burns as Temporary Secretary and add additional items - **5.D.3.c.3. Trip by LCHS KYA and AP Government class to attend a General Assembly session; 5.D.3.c.4. Request for assistance with bus and driver cost for the KYA and AP Government class trip; and 5.M.1. Discuss the Draft Revision of *Students Policy 09.425 Assault and Threats of Violence*** - passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

3. STUDENT/STAFF PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Special Recognition: Dr. Fletcher acknowledged the passing of Richard Cordial, retired Lawrence County bus driver of eighteen years, and retired Lawrence County educator Linda Burke, a devoted teacher of thirty-two years. After sharing their obituaries, Dr. Fletcher asked for a moment of silence to honor their lives and service to Lawrence County students.

3.A. ACTC/FIVCO Science Fair Winners: Aubrey West, Jake Webb, & Brock Kessinger

Three Louisa Middle School students received high honors at the recent regional science fair. Aubrey West was not only the 1st Place Middle School Engineering winner but also was declared 1st Overall Middle School Champion receiving a prize of \$600. Aubrey will advance to the Northern Kentucky Science Fair. Brock Kessinger placed 2nd in Middle School Chemistry, and Jake Webb placed 3rd in Middle School Physics. Dr. Fletcher and the Board congratulated the students for their excellence in representing Lawrence County presenting them and LMS science teachers Carmella Rose and Kelli Dixon with certificates. Dr. Fletcher concluded by encouraging the winners and all students to participate in science fairs each year and gave Aubrey wishes of success in the upcoming larger regional competition.

3.B. LMS 7th Grade Boys Basketball Team: Ohio Valley Conference Champions

Dr. Fletcher stated that this team has accomplished something that's never happened before. Not only were they undefeated (20-0) in conference play, they are the 7th Grade Ohio Valley Conference Champions. "This gives us hope for future contenders as regional winners, just as we hope to see this year. Gentlemen, congratulations to you as a team; we want to recognize each one of you individually. To go 20 and 0 and have an undefeated season, you have to have a lot of heart and talent and some good coaches, too." The players and Coach Jeremy Wellman and Coach Matt Maynard were awarded certificates of recognition: Jared Williams, Cody Maynard, Kyle Davis, Baden Gillispie, Trenton Adkins, Brandon Davis, Brock Kessinger, and Mark Webb.

3.C. Board Member James See: KSBA Academy of Studies Basic Studies-Level I

Dr. Fletcher presented Board Member James See a certificate on behalf of the KSBA board of directors for his achievement in addition to a certificate on behalf of Lawrence County Schools for his "Commitment to Advanced Professional Learning Focused on Improving Lawrence County Schools". From KSBA communication: "This in-service training initiative is designed to prepare school board members to succeed in a new era of high expectations through a realistic and practical curriculum designed with the assistance of experts in the field – current Kentucky board members and superintendents. By completing Level I, you have taken the first step in a very important journey that will benefit the students in your district for years to come." Achievement of Academy of Studies Levels requires training and study above the required hours of training required by regulation.

4. COMMUNICATION

4.A. Superintendent's Update

4.A.1. Superintendent walkthrough/school visit process

Dr. Fletcher discussed his goal of visiting every single classroom in the district to see every teacher and their students before the end of the school year. He thanked Mr. Hall for creating him a template to track his visits. Afterwards, he debriefs with the principal about the positives of the visit and possibly questions. "So far," stated Dr. Fletcher, "I am very pleased. We have pockets of excellence and also areas to work on."

4.A.2. Participation in superintendent legislative visits

The Kentucky Association of School Superintendents (KASS) has asked superintendents to make an effort to attend legislative sessions this spring. Dr. Fletcher along with superintendents from

Greenup and Carter Counties will be attending the week of March 21st to talk about such educational issues as Senate Bill 1, the retirement system and state accountability.

4.A.3. Meeting with Representative Jill York

Recently, Dr. Fletcher and Boyd County Superintendent, Dr. Dotson, met with State Representative Jill York to discuss the state accountability system and retirement system. He noted that the payment system for teachers is not as lucrative as it should be across the state creating personnel issues. “How can we recruit good educators if we don’t have a good retirement system?”

4.A.4. Academic teams and Governor's Cup

All schools are currently in the middle of academic competitions, we have some students advancing to state competition. Lawrence County High School has won district for the third year in a row with their regional coming up next year. All academic teams will be recognized at a board meeting once all competitions are completed. *(Dr. Fletcher takes an active role in Governor’s Cup Competitions, most often moderating quick recall matches.)*

4.A.5. Technology purchases

Dr. Fletcher gave an update on purchases made from board action designating funds for technology. Though the board did not add to the tax rate, instead keeping the same rate for this year, some additional funds were generated and earmarked for bus leases and technology (about \$50,000). Through Mr. Burns’ efforts, in conjunction with principals, 96 Chromebooks, 30 Chromeboxes, 13 Hewlett Packards, and some replacement computers have been purchased. Dr. Fletcher concluded, “It is important for you to know that following the initiation and directive of the Board, we have taken that money and put it where you want it to go.”

4.A.6. Technology vision

Dr. Fletcher complemented Mr. Burns and librarians/media specialists for their work on a technology vision for the district. “If we are going to really make this a 21st Century district, then much more needs to be done (than the purchases just made). What does a library/media center need to look like? What are our kids going to need to be able to do to compete at the next level? They need to be tech-savvy,” stated Dr. Fletcher. The district’s vision has grown since implementing Google classrooms, necessitating surveys to assess what we have and what we need. Training for staff has even been streamed via Google Hangout from one central location to different buildings in the district. Additionally, Mr. Burns is getting bids to increase the bandwidth at Blaine and Fallsburg

4.A.7. Professional development and our calendar

Dr. Fletcher stated that our calendar committee and Mr. Hall have done a great job of putting together a very efficient calendar creating flexible opportunities for professional learning. The district has used three of the missed days for PD days in addition to another flex day. “Day 9 of Google Classroom is tomorrow, and our goal is to make them more than make-up days. Our goal is how we continue learning – keep the kids’ minds going – when we have three and four missed days in a row. We have five days to make up, and as of tomorrow, the last day for students will be May 19.

4.B. Public Comment

5. STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

5.A. Approval of **Minutes** of the January 19, 2016 Regular Meeting and the January 28, 2016 Special Meeting & Draft Budget Work Session passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.B. Approval of **Claims and Orders of the Treasurer** passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 5 to 0.

Dr. Fletcher pointed out and explained large expenditure items including purchase of iPad minis by Louisa West out of their SEEK funds; bulk order maintenance supplies, bond service payment, Honeywell items, academic team shirts, purchase of desks and chairs out of construction funds and School Dude, special education services, utilities, and payment to the sheriff's office for tax collection. He also noted that there are no charges on the Superintendent credit card this month.

5.C. Approval of the **Monthly Financial Report**, presented by Finance Director Edris Humphrey, passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Garnett Skaggs by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.C.1. Bank Reconciliation Report

Ms. Humphrey stated that in looking at the bank reconciliation report, our ending balance for the month of January is **\$3,989, 226**. We had activity in revenue of **\$2,080,307**. Our expenditures for the month were **\$2,129,911**. Our Fund 1cash balance for January was **\$3,199,322**, and we received an increase in Fund 2 funding for our Career & Technical. We received an additional **\$30,379**.

5.C.2. MUNIS Balance Sheet and Monthly Financial Report

Note: Balance Sheets provided to the board in board packets reflect the balance for each fund as of January 31. The Monthly Financial MUNIS Report was also provided in packets for review.

5.C.3. Finance Update

Ms. Humphrey pointed out that the Governor's budget proposal currently sets forth the possibility of a 9% cut, which is most typically in flex focus funds, such as, Extended School Services, textbooks, safe schools, preschool, gifted and talented; and Family Resource Centers are mentioned in the possible cuts. However, full SEEK funding is expected; but if the 9% cut is approved, then General Fund or Fund 2 will have to help out in funding these state grant areas.

CONSENT AGENDA

5.D. Approval of **Consent Agenda** items, as indicated with additions, passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.D.1. Per diem and expenses for members present

5.D.2. Contracts:

5.D.2.a. Musco Lighting maintenance contract with 10-year warranty for football field: one payment \$5,350.00

5.D.2.b. 2016-2017 Nonresident Pupil Contracts from Paintsville Independent School District, Ashland Independent School District and Elliott County School District

5.D.3. Requests:

5.D.3.a. Fundraisers:

5.D.3.a.1. Lawrence County High School

5.D.3.a.2. Blaine Elementary School

5.D.3.b. Use of Facilities:

5.D.3.b.1. Louisa East Elementary gym for Boot-Camp Challenge; February 16 through June 30, 2016; Gary Fletcher & Bradley Dutton; 5 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; proof of insurance provided

5.D.3.b.2. Lawrence County High School commons area & dining area for LCHS Bass Club fundraiser; March 12, 2016 with March 26 as weather date, if needed, 9-4 p.m.; Brandon Meddings

5.D.3.b.3. Louisa Middle School dining room/kitchen for Annual Lawrence County Conservation District Art/Essay Banquet; March 24, 2016, 5-9 p.m.; Kelli Hanshaw; insurance confirmed

5.D.3.c. Other Requests:

5.D.3.c.1. Trip: LCHS KUNA (KY United Nations Assembly) student trip to Louisville, KY; March 6 to March 8 2016; Meagan Horney & Kim Cecil

5.D.3.c.2. Request for assistance with mileage cost to Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA): \$280

5.D.3.c.3. Trip by LCHS KYA and AP Government class to attend a General Assembly session in Frankfort, KY; early March; David Prince (added to agenda)

5.D.3.c.4. Request for assistance with bus and driver cost for KYA and AP Government class to attend a General Assembly session in Frankfort, KY; estimate: \$500 (added to agenda)

5.D.4. For Review: (no action)

5.D.4.a. School Activity Fund Reports (eMeeting): January 2015

5.D.4.b. SBDM/Advisory Council Minutes (LEES; BES)

5.D.4.c. Modification to Career & Technical Center MOA: \$249,471.00

5.E. Review of Read 180 Program Gains Report & relation to *Policy 8.5 Program Evaluation*

Referencing the *Program Evaluation Policy*, which deals with reviewing and evaluating existing and new programs in order to make informed decisions about programs, Dr. Fletcher noted that the Board invested about \$80,000 at the end of last year in an effort to address an unsettling number of students who were at least two grade levels behind in reading, a decision made amidst cutting about \$400,000 from the overall budget. A decision will soon need to be made regarding sustaining and/or expanding the Read 180 Program.

Dr. Fletcher reviewed the mid-year data analysis report that indicated evidence of good student growth with good software implementation. 143 students of the 150 seats available had sufficient data for analysis. Software use (57 sessions) was above the program's mid-year expectation for fidelity of implementation (50) as was the number of software content units accomplished by students. 66% of students have improved their reading levels with almost 40% exceeding their annual growth goal at mid-year with 18% meeting two times the annual growth goal. In addition, there were 46 Read 180 Super Stars (as defined by the Gains Report) in the district. Further analysis will be conducted with the assistance of program consultants to determine why the other students' progress has either flat-lined or has fallen, being about one third of our students. Individual school goals and progress was also discussed. After the initial cost of \$80,000 this year, only \$10,000 is needed next year to sustain the 150 seats, and currently students are on a waiting list to get into the program. Ideally, as students are successful and exit the program being replaced by other students, over the years the program will be needed less and less.

5.F. Update on football field/track drainage project

Finance Director Edris Humphrey reported that KDE has determined that the BG approved by the Board at a previous meeting is not needed (though KDE had previously required the separate BG process) and that the drainage project can be placed under a BG from the LCHS Renovation Project, which still has left-over funds. This should allow the project to move forward as soon as weather permits.

5.G. Approval of permission to seek bids for grass mowing passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.H. Approval of 2017-18 FRYSC Assurance Certification Continuation Program Plans for Blaine Elementary, Fallsburg Elementary, Louisa East/West Elementary, and Louisa Middle/Lawrence County High School passed pending SBDM Council approvals with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.I. Approval of student field trip fees for Louisa Middle School, Louisa West Elementary, and Louisa East Elementary passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0. *(Student field trip fees will not exceed the actual cost for admission, meals, and travel. Blaine Elementary reported that it does not assess any field trip fees. Because of snow, LCHS and FES have not had SBDM meetings to approve field trip fees.)*

5.J. Approval for the Board and Superintendent to attend the KSBA 80th Annual Conference on February 26-28 in Louisville, Kentucky, passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Garnett Skaggs by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.K. Approval to enter **Executive Session** to discuss proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency pursuant KRS 61.810(1)(c) passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.L. Approval to return to **Open Session** passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.M. New Business

5.M.1. Discuss the Draft Revision of STUDENTS POLICY 09.425 Assault and Threats of Violence (added to agenda)

Revision to this policy will expand and more clearly define options that can be taken and the consequences of terroristic and bomb threats in particular. The policy will be included in the annual policy and procedure updates from KSBA, effective next school year. Policy information will also be a part of the 2016-2017 Parent and Student Handbook.

6. PERSONNEL

6.A. Approval of changes regarding position(s) for 2015-2016, as indicated, passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 5 to 0. *[Needs of middle school students (6-8th grades) are often different than what can be provided by the current high school Alternative Education Program. This position will better allow the needs of students to be met.]*

The following position is changed:

- From (1) Middle Grades Alternative Education Teacher (*certified salary schedule; optional \$5000 extra duty service pay for administrative duties; if needed*) to (1) District Middle Grades Alternative Education Teacher (*certified salary schedule; optional \$4000 extra duty service pay and 15 extended days for additional/administrative duties; if needed*)

6.B. Superintendent Professional Growth and Evaluation System (SPGES): Feedback

Board members provided written feedback to Dr. Fletcher on his mid-year review and had opportunity to comment and discuss any area of the standards.

6.C. Superintendent's Personnel Action/Update

Hiring

Sarah Roe	- Instructional Assistant at Fallsburg Elementary School (1-Year)
Larry Whitt	- Bus Driver

Substitute Teachers

Donna N. West
Melody Salyers
Tia Boggs

Resignations

Karen Price	-Custodian at Louisa Middle School
Barbara Parker	-Fulltime Bus Monitor

7. ADJOURNMENT

Approval to adjourn passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

Chairman – D. Heath Preston

Temporary Secretary – Tommy Burns

Secretary to the Board – Betty Mullins